

Message Text

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CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV IS US EG XF
SUBJECT: BRIEFING FOR SADAT ON STATUS OF ME NEGOTIATIONS--
FONMIN KAMEL'S COMMENTS

REF: (A) CAIRO 12617, (B) STATE 117796

SUMMARY: FONMIN KAMEL INFORMS THAT HE MET WITH VP MUBARAK AND PRIMIN THIS MORNING TO DISCUSS POINTS I HAD MADE TO SADAT YESTERDAY AND THE PRESIDENT'S RESULTANT INSTRUCTIONS. SINCE KAMEL REMAINED PUZZLED AS TO EXACTLY WHAT WAS WANTED, I REHEARSED MY PRESENTATION TO SADAT FOR HIS BENEFIT. KAMEL IS DRAGGING HIS FEET ON REVISING EGYPTIAN COUNTERPROPOSAL, ARGUING GOE NOT IN A POSITION TO DO SO WITHOUT JORDANIAN AND PALESTINIAN CONCURRENCE. HE NEVERTHELESS AGREED LOOK AT IT AGAIN. MUBARAK LEAVING FOR RIYADH, MAY 14, AND THEREAFTER FOR AMMAN FOR CONSULTATIONS. KAMEL SAID HE HOPES SOME ANSWERS WILL BE READY PRIOR MY DEPARTURE NEXT WEEK. END SUMMARY.

1. IN COURSE OF MEETING WITH FONMIN KAMEL (AND AHMED MAHER) TODAY ON OTHER MATTERS (SEPTELS), KAMEL SAID HE HAD SPENT ALL MORNING IN A MEETING WITH VP MUBARAK AND

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PRIMIN SALEM. MUBARAK HAD CONVENED MEETING ON BASIS OF MY TALK YESTERDAY WITH SADAT AND THE PRESIDENT'S RESULTANT INSTRUCTIONS TO THEM. KAMEL SEEMED GENUINELY PUZZLED AS TO WHAT WAS WANTED. I, THEREFORE, REVIEWED FOR KAMEL SUBSTANCE REF B, INCLUDING OUR TWO QUESTIONS TO THE ISRAELIS, THE FOUR QUESTIONS THAT THE ISRAELIS WANT ANSWERED AND OUR POSITION THAT WE REQUIRE INDICATION OF

WILLINGNESS TO RESPOND POSITIVELY TO OUR QUESTIONS BEFORE WE CAN FORMALLY APPROACH SADAT ON THE ISRAELI QUESTIONS. I ALSO RECALLED THAT SADAT HAD THEREUPON INSTRUCTED MUBARAK TO CONVENE MEETING OF PRIMIN AND KAMEL IN ORDER TO DRAW UP CERTAIN QUESTIONS WHICH MIGHT BE ASKED IF ISRAELIS GIVE US POSITIVE REPLY.

2. SOMEHOW THIS HAD NOT QUITE GOTTEN THROUGH FROM MUBARAK'S BRIEFING. KAMEL WAS AWARE THAT I WILL BE RETURNING ON CONSULTATIONS THURSDAY, MAY 18, AND THAT SADAT WANTS ANSWERS GIVEN TO ME SO I CAN TAKE THEM BACK. KAMEL WAS UNCERTAIN EXACTLY WHAT WAS WANTED. I TOLD HIM THAT THIS CLEARLY SHOULD BE CHECKED WITH THE PRESIDENT, BUT MY IMPRESSION WAS THREE-FOLD: (A) QUESTIONS THAT SADAT MIGHT WISH TO RAISE IF ISRAELI ANSWERS ARE POSITIVE, (B) ANY PRELIMINARY COMMENTS SADAT MIGHT HAVE ON THE FOUR ISRAELI QUESTIONS, AND (C) HOPEFULLY, A REVISED EGYPTIAN COUNTERPROPOSAL FOR WEST BANK/GAZA.

3. RE LATTER, KAMEL DEMURRED. NOTING OUR DESCRIPTION OF EGYPTIAN COUNTERPROPOSAL AS LEGAL DOCUMENT, HE CONTENDED THAT BEGIN PLAN IS EVEN MORE SO. I POINTED OUT THAT BEGIN PLAN AT LEAST GIVES SOME INDICATION OF HOW SELF-RULE REGIME WILL WORK DURING TRANSITIONAL PERIOD; EGYPTIAN COUNTERPROPOSAL, WHILE REVISED FORM IS IMPROVEMENT OVER INITIAL DRAFT, DOES NO SUCH THING. HENCE, IT IS NOT VERY
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HELPFUL FOR PURPOSES WE HAD PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED. WHAT I HAD PROPOSED TO SADAT IS THAT SOME OF THE POINTS THE PRESIDENT HAS MADE PUBLICLY BE INCLUDED SO THAT IT LOOKS LIKE A NEGOTIATING DOCUMENT. KAMEL WAS SKEPTICAL THAT GOE CAN DO SO WITHOUT CAUSING PROBLEMS FOR ITSELF WITH OTHER ARABS. MAHER CHIMED IN TO ARGUE IT IS ONE THING FOR SADAT TO EXPRESS HIS PERSONAL IDEAS ON WEST BANK/GAZA ARRANGEMENTS IN SPEECHES OR ARTICLES, BUT IT IS QUITE A DIFFERENT THING FOR GOE TO MAKE A FORMAL PROPOSAL TO THE ISRAELIS, INCORPORATING SUCH IDEAS. THIS COULD ONLY BE DONE AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE JORDANIANS AND THE PALESTINIANS. KAMEL THOUGHT REVISED EGYPTIAN COUNTERPROPOSAL IS ADEQUATE AS IT STANDS, BUT ON MY PERSISTENT URGING, AGREED TO HAVE ANOTHER LOOK AT IT.

4. ASKED ABOUT CONSULTATIONS WITH HUSSEIN AND SAUDIS, KAMEL SAID VP MUBARAK WILL GO TO RIYADH SUNDAY, MAY 14, AND THEREAFTER TO AMMAN TO CONSULT WITH HUSSEIN. SCENARIO WOULD BE GENERAL ONE SADAT HAD DESCRIBED TO ME. HE THOUGHT MUBARAK WILL RETURN MONDAY NIGHT OR TUESDAY. HENCE, EGYPTIAN RESPONSES SHOULD BE ABLE TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT RESULTS OF CONSULTATIONS WITH HUSSEIN AND SAUDIS.

5. WE AGREED TO KEEP IN TOUCH

6. DEPT MAY WISH REPEAT THIS MESSAGE TO TEL AVIV. EILTS

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